

Let Common sense be Our Companion

It seems that as on date, Central Govt. is not showing any intention to frame 'Separate rules for Pension Revision' for CG pensioners and so there will not be any question to any rule for pension revision to BSNL Absorbed pensioners also. Both CG pensioners and BSNL absorbed are having pension rules with intended sub rules. It seems that both the main national parties are not interested to place 8th CPC in their manifesto.

Govt. is doing pension revision to their CG pensioners along the pay revision of its employees through CPC and on the basis of the recommendations. For BSNL absorbed also, there was pension revision after pay revision of their employees' w.e.f 1-1-2007.

Regarding CG pensioners, they got their pension revision as per 7th CPC OMs of DOPPW simultaneously with their employees w.e.f 1-1-2016. For BSNL absorbed pensioners, no such revision is there till date.

PBCAT Delhi has directed to revise the pension of absorbed as per the rules analogous to CG pensioners. Here rules meant what is the question that need clear answers beyond doubt. There is no such pension revision rule for CG pensioners. OMs are there for revision. If that is construed as rules then, no question of pension revision as demanded by pensioners' associations from 1-1-2017. That date is not connected with those OMs.

If the rules are meant 37A, there is no provision in that for pension revision. When there is no general rule for pension revision to CG pensioners, no question of amending this 37A by inserting some sub rule for pension revision.

So what the CAT is meaning by stating the direction according to rules is to be clarified. Or the associations gone to the CAT and got that judgment should clarify, what they think as rules for pension revision, barring that OMs of DOPPW, if any.

DOT has taken explicit position that, they cannot implement CAT judgment and so they have gone to Delhi HC to quash the same. On the other side, associations have gone for contempt petition to pull up DOT for not implementing the direction as per the rules analogous to CG pensioners.

If anybody knows what that rules the CAT directing, can kindly clarify publicly to get the clarified views on the judgment and the contempt.

I hope fighting in the air with good financial sticks or any shadow fight quoting irrelevant things , to satisfy one' s ego would take us no road.

It seems that as on date both DOT and BSNL are not in a mood to budge an inch in their respective positions. They offered 3 rd PRC scales with IDA merger but without any fitment. They want to use some loopholes in the 3rd PRC recommendations to settle the issue of both pay revision and pension revision, without seeking any exemption to the DPE OMs.

Associations can break their heads to attain what they desire, and knock the doors of Courts, as they have sound finance conditions, but efforts should not go wasted. If futile attempts are the only returns, then dissatisfaction and demoralization may mount.

The associations who are all in the same or near the same positions of DOT are mostly inactive, and it seems away from the issue, leaving things to the fate.

One cannot grope long, should find light, but dogmatism will never help to find any ray of light.

Common sense is the best companion for both the associations as well as to the Trade Unions. Let us not close door to common sense.

11 hrs 11-5-2024 R. Pattabiraman